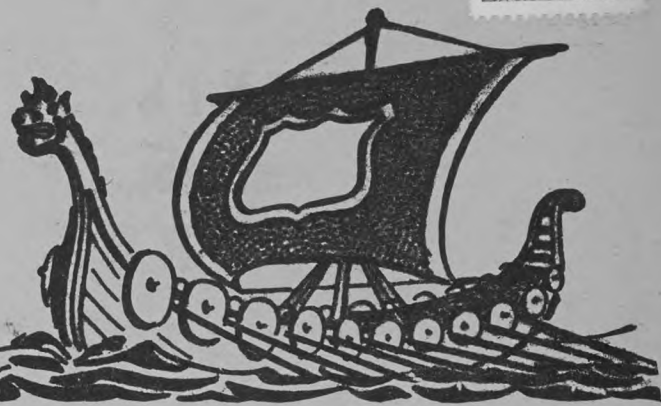




Scandinavian Centre News



PUBLISHED BY THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

VOL. 9 NO. 8

TEN PAGES

AUGUST, 1969

Swedes and Finns Retain Trophies at Picnic

Despite rather threatening skies, a lot of people travelled out to Vasa Park on Pigeon Lake to partake of the activities scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, June 29.

The events started at 1:00 p.m. with the Swedes taking on the Norwegians in a baseball game which ended after five innings in a twelve to four victory for the Swedes.

Following the baseball, a display

Following is a list of winners for the various events.

Girls 4 and under: 1 Marie Johansson, who is visiting for the summer from Sweden, 2 Leigh Haugen, 3 Sandra Petersson; Boys 4 and under: 1 Bruce Samuelson, 2 Ricky Haugen, 3 Gary Samuelson; Girls 5 and 6: 1 Karen Stagg, 2 Terry Runcer, 3 Kim Stagg; Boys 5 and 6: 1 Tommy Haugen, 2 Bradley Rautio,

3 Lorne Hoch; Girls 7 and 8: 1 Randy Tychsen, 2 Linda Godbersen, 3 Marilyn Grabski; Boys 7 and 8: 1 Danny Pearson, 8 Larry Wengberg; Girls 9 and 10: 1 Alyson Watson, 2 Kristine Knutson, 3 Barbara Knutson; Boys 9 and 10: 1 Gary Johnson, 2 David Rushton, 3 Keith Grabski; Girls 11 and 12: 1 Susan Stagg, 2 Sandy Winquist, 3 Beverly Grabski; Boys 11 and 12: 1 Brian Kufly, 2 Neil Markstrom, 3 John Westgate; Girls 13 to 15: 1 Leslie Watson, 2 Georgina Prusko, 3 Wendy Lahti; Boys 13 to 15: 1 Doug Pearson, 2 Grant Johnson. All winners were awarded ribbons and chocolate bars.

The adults were not forgotten! A "nail-driving" contest for the ladies was organized. Lillian French of Hanna outpounded all comers. A test of balance and speed for the ladies was next. Pat Westgate managed to keep her ping-pong ball perched on her square of wood long enough to cross the finish line first with Clara Jonsson right behind.

The men were next!

They tried their skill at balancing a ping-pong ball on a spoon while running. Jens Godbersen was first, Lennart Petersson second and third was Ove Clausen. A walking race was next, for all couples who had been married over twenty-five years. The winners, first Mr. and Mrs. A. Ogren, second Mr. and Mrs. J. Lineham and third Mr. and Mrs. J.

FINNISH GIRL WINS AGAIN



Susan Kauppila receives the Scandinavian Centre queen's trophy and warm wishes from retiring queen Kathy Jones-Cook at the picnic, June 29th.

Susan Kauppila was born in Calgary and moved to Edmonton with her parents shortly after. She has lived here since. Her father was born in Finland and her mother here in Canada. Susan is a fourth year student at the University of Alberta, majoring in Home Economics. Her minor in the coming year will be Physical Education.

She has had an interesting variety of summer jobs. She was a playground director for two years,

worked at Alberta School Hospital in Red Deer, as a waitress and is working at St. Joseph's Auxiliary Hospital this summer.

She went to Expo two summers ago and is planning to take her trip to Finland next summer.

On August 15, Susan will become the bride of Mr. Bob Saibairn. Bob will be teaching chemistry at Alberta College next year and plans to go on into computing sciences.

Stagg. The same race was repeated for those couples who had been married less than 25 years, first Mr. and Mrs. L. Petersson, second Mr. and Mrs. S. Jonsson and third Mr. and Mrs. V. Pearson. Brian Kufly outdistanced the men in a dash with Howard MacNaughton coming second and Danny Lineham third. The final race for the day was the three-legged race. Betty and Jean Wold won that with Sandy Linquist and Leslie Watson placing second, and Grant and Gary Johnson coming third. The rolling pins were heaved by the ladies. Brenda Menzies threw hers the farthest with Tuula Taipale taking second.

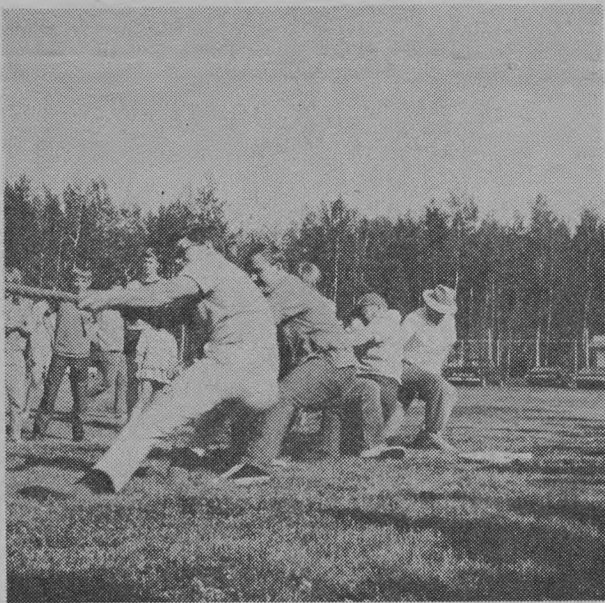
While all the races had been going on, the Icelanders had been busy beating the Finlanders 20 to 5 in a five inning baseball game. Later in the day, the Icelanders took on the Swedes for five innings of ball, but this time ended up on the losing end of a 12 to 1 score.

Just before supper, a tug of war was held, but no one could outpull the Swedes who took both the Nor-

wegians and the Finns in two straight pulls.

While all this activity was going on, a horseshoe competition was in progress. Last year's winners, Stan Zarowny and Henry Hobva, maintained their crowns out of a field of twenty teams, while Raymond Erickson and George Modin took second.

Perhaps the crowd wasn't as large as last years, but the enthusiasm and action were better. I think that everyone enjoyed themselves, thanks to the efforts of Harvey Haugen, Esko Salo, Matti Lehtiniemi, Anders Anderson, Steini Jonsson and Len Petersson, who were the board members responsible for all the organization and effort that go into making a successful picnic.



of beauty in the Queen Contest. The five lovely young ladies were: eighteen year old Donna Bukvi representing the Sons of Norway; Linda Kjeersgaard, eighteen, from Dania; Vasa candidate, Valerie Larson, eighteen; Judy Vigfusson, seventeen, from the Icelandic Society; and twenty year old Susan Kauppila representing the Finnish Society. Harv Haugen enjoyed interviewing the candidates on their interests, aspirations and education. Last years Queen, Kathy Jones-Cook, asked the girls questions on various subjects to aid the judges in their decision. The difficult role of judging fell to Patricia Westgate, Yvonne Hewitt, Linnea Lodge, Evelyn Raesar and Inge Godbersen, one from each of the five affiliated societies. The judges awards, second runner up to Valerie Larson, first runner up Judy Vigfusson and the Queen, crowned by retiring Queen Kathy Jones-Cook is Susan Kauppila.

The part of the day which all the children were waiting for had arrived. The races! While everyone was assembling, Harv Haugen kept the kids busy with an Uncle Albert contest which Douglas Sund won.



Pictured in their colorful costumes are left to right: Queen Susan Kauppila, Finnish Society; Donna Bukvi, Sons of Norway; Valerie Larson, Vasa (second runner-up); Kathy Jones-Cook (Finnish-retiring queen); Linda Kjeersgaard, Dania and missing from the picture Judy Vigfusson, Icelandic (first runner-up).



SPLINTERS from the BOARD

The report from the Scandinavian Centre is heard on CFCW (790) every Saturday at 11:25 A.M. The following directors will broadcast the report for the next two months, unless they have "pinch hitters" substituting:

AUGUST 2 Esko Salo
AUGUST 9 Gunnar Thorvaldson
AUGUST 16 Paul Karvonen
AUGUST 23 Bill Halldorson
AUGUST 30 Matti Lehtiniemi
SEPTEMBER 6 Peter Johnson
SEPTEMBER 13 Claus Jacobsen
SEPTEMBER 20 Esko Salo
SEPTEMBER 27 Gunnar Thorvaldson

The following directors have moved since the last issue of the News, and you may contact them as follows:

Esko Salo — 37 Garden Crescent St. Albert, Alberta. Res. 599-7502
Bus. 429-5591.

Svea I (May) Rushton, (Secretary) — Ste. 1, 7307 - 118 St., Edmonton, Alberta. Res. 439-5685. Bus. 439-5949.

CHARTER FLIGHTS

There are four good charter flights available in 1970, and in order not to be disappointed, make sure your applications are in early. Remember also, to be eligible for any one of the flights, you must be a fully paid-up member of the Scandinavian Centre Co-op. Assoc., Ltd., six months prior to flight time.

SCANDINAVIAN PICNIC

We extend our sincere thanks to Scandia Lodge No. 549 for use of their facilities at Vasa Park, Pigeon Lake, for our annual Scandinavian Picnic, and also to all those who put so much time and effort into making the picnic a success. Congratulations also to our new Queen, Susan Kauppila.

SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE NEWS

We sincerely wish to thank all those who have contributed to the Scandinavian Centre News in the past. Without your donations it would be difficult to keep the News rolling.

MANAGER:

We are still in need of a Manager, so if anyone is interested or knows of anyone who would be interested, please contact one of the Directors.

TO EACH AND EVERYONE — HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

Buford News

Visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Modin were Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Lindgren and Mark of Kulrn, North Dakota, and Mr. and Mrs. Milton Lindgren and children of Yakima, Washington.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Pearson on their marriage which took place on July 11th at the Calmar Lutheran Church.

Emil and Tillie Kvarnberg have returned home following a trip through Jasper, Banff and Radium.

Members of the community, gathered at Willow Creek for a delicious "pot luck" supper to honor Frank and Gerda Erickson. They were presented with a lamp as a farewell gift and good wishes for their new home in Leduc.

Mr. and Mrs. Clair Pearson and girls moved into their new home, the former home of Frank Erickson.

There was a splendid turnout at the mid-summer dance sponsored by the Buford Vasa Lodge at Vasa Park.

Congratulations to Eric Kvarnberg and Charlie Erickson on winning the horseshoe tournament at Tellordville on July 1st.

Visiting at the Erickson homes were Mr. and Mrs. Orville Charlton of Kelowna, B.C.

Get well wishes go to Bertha Falk and Floyd Modin who are in the Leduc hospital.

Several children from here enjoyed camp week at Vasa Park. Thanks to Skandia Lodge for enabling our children to participate.

COMMENT - - -

Gentlemen:

Re: Charter Flights to Scandinavian.

I am a Shareholder. I cannot help but voice my disappointment with the decision taken by the Board of the Scandinavian Centre. I think the Shareholders should be called in and have their say in this matter.

"Wardair" has given us the most excellent service in every respect. Our family from Denmark has visited us twice, my husband has gone once and I twice by WARDAIR.

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Does anybody think as I do, please let us hear from you.

Mrs. C. Mortensen.

Dear Mrs. Nielsen:

Enclosed find two dollars for the Scandinavian Centre News.

We always look forward to this paper coming every month, enjoy reading the News from the different organizations.

Thanks also to the different correspondents, who put time and efforts into their write ups for our enjoyment.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Gilbert Sorenson.

VASA LODGE SKANDIA



Vice-chairman Lennart Petersson opened the regular monthly meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was held Saturday, July 5 in the Club House at Vasa Park.

Members reported sick were Marjory Correll, Minnie Nelson, Bill McMaster and Don Johnson.

Two cabins have come up for sale at the lake, Albin Marksted's, south end of the second row, and Pearl Hober's middle of row three.

All delegates to the District Convention, held June 21 and 22, spoke on the convention and the pleasure of having the Grand Master Bertil Winstrom with us for the occasion.

A new set of swings and a slide may be found at the playground thanks to the Sports Committee.

Coffee and lunch were donated and served by Virginia Fawcett, Sharon Winquist, Sonja Sund, and Martha Kay.

The Club house had the atmosphere of a gay nineties dance hall for the dance that followed. Gail and Janine Sund, and Sandra Winquist had painted a mural and posters to decorate the walls. Bud and Gertie Holmgren were the hosts for the dance with music supplied by the Travellers. At midnight Roy and Charlotte Samuelson started baking and serving pancakes. It was a most enjoyable evening.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Saturday August 2 —

5:00 p.m. — Ernie and Irene Hokanson are hosting supper at the Club House at Vasa Park.

7:00 p.m. — Regular monthly meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia held in the Club House at Vasa Park.

9:00 p.m. — A dance hosted by Ray and Doreen Nyroos. Music by the Travellers.

Saturday, September 6 —

5:00 p.m. — Pot Luck Supper organized by Betty Pearson.

7:30 p.m. — Regular monthly meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia held in the Club House at Vasa Park.

VASA GLIMPSES

A very special birthday party was held at Vasa Park, Sunday, May 18. A pot luck luncheon was the reason Martha Kay came to the Club House at 2:00 p.m., to find it was really a surprise fiftieth birthday party. Evelyn Modin read a poem she had composed on the highlights of Martha's life. A gift of money was presented on behalf of Martha's many friends. Martha's sister, Lulu and family of Saskatoon were present for the festivities.

An impromptu coffee party was held at Bud and Gertie Holmgren's cabin at Vasa Park, Sunday, May 22, in honor of the Grand Master of the Vasa Order of America Bertil Winstrom and his wife Beatrice. They were in Edmonton to attend the District Convention held at the Corona Hotel, June 21 and 22. A motor trip through Jasper, Banff and Calgary had been planned before their return home.

The Swedish Ambassador to Canada, Per Lind, his wife and their son Tomas were guests of honor at an afternoon social and Pot Luck Supper held at Vasa Park Saturday, June 28. The Swedish Consul, Sigurd Franzen, his wife Ida and their daughter Lorraine were also present. The Lunds are returning to Sweden after three and a half years in Ottawa. Before their trip home they were spending a week in the Louise and Jasper area.

Fae Johnson has returned home after a nine month stay in Europe. Fae and a girlfriend spent several months touring Europe after working in London for six months.

We have a lot of members travelling in Sweden and Europe this year. Herman Nelson left on the Centre flight June 29. Erlund Markstrom, his wife Ethel and children Carol and Kurt left June 17, for a 6 week visit. July 24 saw Alma Samuelson and granddaughter Linda, Eric and Hansine Pierre, Aune Sorensen and children Marie-Louise, Kent and Michael, Margaret Eliason, John Bergstrom and family, and Betty Gidloff taking off for a four week journey in Europe.

Congratulations to Glenn and Audrey Eliasson on the birth of their son Brian Lee, on June 15. A brother for Karen and the best of Fathers' Day presents.

Magnus and Betty Pearson have had visitors from Anaheim, California, their son Gordon, his wife Shirley and daughters Kim and Sandra were up for a week. While in Canada they visited Shirley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chettleborough in Vancouver.

Magnus' and Betty's daughter Marjory Correll of Vancouver has also been here for a visit as has Magnus' sister Helen Riley from Kamloops.

Bud and Gertie Holmgren have been camping in the "bush" around Cadomin and Jasper.

CAMP WEEK

Over sixty children turned out for the week set aside as camp week at Vasa Park. Gertie Holmgren and Helga Johnson stepped in and took over the leadership until Evelyn Johnson could make it out. The cooks were kept busy preparing meals for the leaders and their charges which seemed to grow in number every day. Carol McRae, Carol Banks and Verna Larson taught the culture, Joan Petersson, Virginia Fawcett and their crew of helpers produced some craft projects while Ken Banks and James Johnson organized hikes, baseball, volleyball and swimming. It was a busy week for all involved and culminated in a delightful program on Sunday, July 13, at 2:00 p.m. The children sang and danced as they had never done all week and made us proud to have been involved in some small way.

Scandinavian Centre News

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Mrs Sinikka Cumming
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WITH SYMPATHY

The Directors of the Scandinavian Centre extend their condolences to Tom and Vera Neilsen in the death of their son-in-law, Thomas Crummer of Ardrossan.

Golden Wedding Celebrated

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lundgren of Glendon, Alberta, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on June 9th.

Mrs. Lundgren, formerly Katharine Dahl, came from Easvall, Norway with her parents to South Dakota. From there they journeyed to Court, Saskatchewan where she met and married Fred Lundgren, who had originally come from Vasterbotten, Sweden. The couple have nine children.

The Golden Anniversary was celebrated by a party at the Maloy Community Hall. Telegrams of congratulations were received from Lieutenant Governor Grant McEwan and Premier Harry Strom. Presentations of money and some lovely gifts from friends were received.

On hand for the celebration were: Mrs. Lundgren's sister Mrs. Emma Cowan of Compeer, Saskatchewan; Mrs. Louise Dahl of Veteran, Alberta; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Scharfenberg and family of Edmonton; Mr. and Mrs. John Enger and grandson Dallas Smith of Edmonton; Mr. Mervin Caldwell of Compeer, Saskatchewan; Mrs. Bill Melne and family of Victoria, B.C.; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lundgren and Lisa of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Lundgren and family of Edmonton; Mr. and Mrs. George Keeper of Goodridge, Alberta; Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Lundgren of Valleyview, Alberta; and Mr. and Mrs. Julian Lundgren and family.

Folk-Arts Council Tours Europe

The Edmonton Folk-Arts Council is an organization composed of various nationalities and cultures. This organization puts on programmes portraying the theme "Unity In Diversity". Warren Clark, a member of the Sons of Norway Jr. Lodge, is the group representative of the Norwegians. Warren and forty-nine other members of the Folk-Arts Council will be leaving Edmonton on July 8 for a three week tour of northern Africa and Europe encompassing the nations of Tunisia, Italy, France and England. They received financial assistance from the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments in the form of grants.

The tour will be demonstrating the fact that Canada is composed of many ethnic groups and through this diversity they find Unity. Warren, needless to say is doing his best to represent the Norwegians. Best of luck, Warren.

DID YOU KNOW —

The Swedish engineer, C. G. P. de Laval built the first workable steam turbines in the 1880's. He had one wheel using 4 nozzles which turned as fast as 40,000 revolutions per minute and he later designed models which developed 500 horsepower. Today's ram jets and rockets use the De Laval nozzle.

SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT



SUNDAY AUGUST 24 — Lodge Picnic, at Victoria Park.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13—Harvest Dance.

The Solglyt Lodge June Picnic which was held at Lac La Nonne was attended by approximately 100 people. It was a beautiful day and folks took to the water to swim, ride in motor boats and water skii. There was even a river boat for those who preferred to relax. A pot-luck supper was served in the evening.

YOUR SOLGLYT NEWS REPORTER for AUGUST is Mrs. Hilma Bukvi. Please phone her at 489-2853 and give her your newsworthy events.

Mr. Knut Svidal was a delegate to Ottawa, June 19-22 where he attended the National Conference of the United Nations Association of Edmonton.

Mr. Sig. Sorenson was recently appointed Regional Manager for Alberta, representing Sons of Norway. He will be spending a couple of weeks at Grande Prairie in August where he hopes he may help form a Sons of Norway Lodge.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Holten had as their guests Mrs. Hedvik Jakobson, Mrs. Marie Vanebo and Martin Ostevik for a few days prior to their July 7 flight to Oslo, Norway. They are residents of Saskatchewan.

Martin and Shirley Larson are living at 93 - Fairway Drive.

Mrs. Nels Naverseth flew to Minneapolis in June where she spent a week of holidays visiting friends.

Mrs. Svend Tychsen has her mother from Swift Current, Saskatchewan visiting with her for a few weeks.

Mr. Klaas Lubbers spent an enjoyable holiday the later part of May and first part of June visiting his mother and friends in Groenigen Province, Holland, also a sister at Amsterdam.

Mr. and Mrs. Sig. Sorenson and their guest Mr. Leonard Thompson spent July 7 at the Calgary Stampede. Mr. Thompson is Field Manager for Sons of Norway.

Miss Donna Bukvi represented Solglyt Lodge in the Scandinavian Queen contest, which was held at Vasa Park on June 29. Donna is 18 years of age. She completed her grade twelve at Jasper Place Composite High School this summer and plans to enter the field of nursing. Her hobbies are the piano and accordion. Donna was active in the Junior Lodge for many years. We wish Donna every success in her chosen career.

Devra Drysdale of Vegreville, Alberta won the title "Honey Queen of Canada" this year in Ottawa. She is a cousin to Donna Bukvi. Devra is 14 years of age. She made a 'Honey Pumpkin Loaf' which won for her many lovely prizes, dinners with dignitaries, the trip to Ottawa and the title.

Sharon Sorenson and her friend Janice Thompson spent an enjoyable ten days holiday during June and July at Newfolden, Minnesota.

Kevin, Kurtis and Korie Svidal spent the long weekend in July visiting with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Eliuk at St. Paul.

Mr. S. Reno entered the Misericordia Hospital recently for treatment for recurring heart trouble. He will be confined to hospital for some time so would appreciate visitors. Mrs. Reno is suffering from diabetes.

Miss Ruth Hammerstad is home from hospital having recuperated from troublesome leg injuries. We are happy to hear she is walking again using only canes.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lineham and son Danny drove to Estevan, Saskatchewan in July for a birthday celebration. Clara's mother, Gertrude Parnas reached her 80 birthday. She was surprised at an open house which was held for her on the old homestead farm where Mrs. Parnas spent many happy years. She was presented with a beautiful Norwegian brooch. Joe and Clara went on to Toronto where they left Danny who is presently travelling around Europe. They also visited the beautiful Niagara Falls.

Warren Clark is on a three week tour of Rome, Paris and London with a group of other young people. The Edmonton Folk Arts Council chose these young people for their dancing ability and only one representative from each of the various nationalities was picked. Warren represents the Norwegians.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Broen have another addition to their family, a baby girl born June 25. She weighed 7 lbs. 6 ozs. She has one sister and three brothers.

Mrs. E. Clark and Betty McKevitt were hostesses at a surprise miscellaneous shower for Miss Tove Sateraas. The shower was held July 15 at the home of Mrs. Clark. Miss Sateraas received many beautiful gifts from the ladies of the Lodge. A scrap book for the couple was made by each of the ladies making one page. Lois Halberg won the prize for the best page. A delicious lunch of sandwiches, cake and coffee was served. Miss Sateraas is to be married on August 2.

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ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

Birthday greetings go out to two of our Icelandic Society's Life Members, Mrs. Sadie Lee, of Qualicum Beach, B.C. on August 25th; and to Mrs. Bergros Palsson, of Dawson Creek, on August 26th. Good health be yours.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cameron, accompanied by Miss Donna, and her cousin, Miss Karen Gislason, of Athabasca travelled by car and house trailer westward on holiday. First stop was to Cadomin, to join the Rock Club in a search for onyx and other interesting artifacts, some of which could only be found by descending into a cave, situated high on a hill near the campsite. Continuing on with their journey, they visited relatives and friends as they travelled through Prince George, Vanderhoof, Barkerville, Vancouver, Seattle and home. They bring greetings from Inga and Bill Backmann of North Vancouver.

Mr. Ted Benediktson has left for at least a two-year stay in Frobisher Bay, Baffin Land, where he is employed by his company, as a plumbing supervisor in their building projects in that area. His wife, Ruth, and wee son, Teddy, will follow at a later date, as Master Teddy had to undergo eye-surgery in hospital. We offer best wishes for his speedy recovery, and joy in their new location.

Mrs. Walter Arason, and daughter, Beverly, travelled by train to Winnipeg, to attend the wedding of a cousin, Miss Aileen Haal to Mr. John Walters, who is teaching in Vancouver, B.C. While in Winnipeg, they enjoyed a re-union of family and friends, including Mr. and Mrs. S. Arason, of International Falls, Minn.

Miss Marian Arnason attended the Pacific Pioneer Camp, held on Thetis Island during the month of July. For some years, she has been one of the young folk attending at the camp in Alberta, but now joins the holiday group of young enthusiasts under Christian leadership on the Pacific Coast. Friends of her grandmother, Mrs. Belle Hogan, of Aldergrove, B.C. will regret to hear she is in a wheel chair from an ankle injury.

Mr. Fred Fishburne sends word back from his exciting flight to his old home in England that his sister, Nora, and family are expecting a visit of his brother who makes his home in Africa. Mr. Fishburne's tour will also include a visit to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kinard of Worthing, England, and many of our readers will remember the time these two were present at our summer picnic in Victoria Park.

Little Master Todd and wee Miss Stacey Mitchell accompanied their grandparents, Pauline and Alex Mitchell, on a motor trip to visit an auntie, Thora, and her husband Oscar Vaughn, in California. They were away for about two weeks, and proved to be excellent travellers.

Our genial president, Gunnar Thorvaldson, his wife, Shirley and the three children, Gary, Carla, and Cindy motored to Lyleton, Man., to visit Mr. and Mrs. Edgar, parentsociety will miss the periodic appearance of Shirley; and then on to Winni-ance of the typical Viking at Scan-

peg to attend the wedding, on July 12th, of Gunnar's brother, August Thorvaldson to Miss Caroline Sova. They plan on extending their holidays to include a motor trip to the Black Hills of South Dakota, Mt. Rushmore, South Yellowstone, and the International Peace Garden on the border.

Congratulations go out to Master Joey Crawford, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Crawford of Calling Lake, Alta., on the completion of his Hunter Training Course. At the closing ceremonies under the auspices of the Fish and Game Branch, Joey received a certificate and medalion for his studies in forestry conservation, hunting and nature regulations. At the same ceremony Mr. Donald Cameron received his diploma as instructor, in the hunting and forestry-training. In the past, he has been instrumental in enlisting the interests of many students of this vital part of our Alberta heritage.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Valgardson spent a week-end in Calgary, visiting Earl's brother and family, before the brother undergoes surgery in a Calgary hospital.

The Storyland Valley Zoo is one of Edmonton's prime attractions when youthful visitors arrive in the city, and this proved to be true when the Oddson children were able to entertain their cousins from Coburg, Ont. as they spent several days here. With their mother, Mrs. Steve (Lorraine) Baranyi, the young cousins Anne and Christine were renewing family ties with Mr. and Mrs. Oddson, as Lorraine is a sister of Lucille. During the visit there was a bit of excitement when Kris, a son, required several stitches in a nasty gash in his leg. We trust he will quickly resume his holiday hi-jinks once he has recovered. Miss Loni Oddson went to Coburg for a three-week visit there.

Those who attended the Saga Singers Concert at Markerville in May met many Calgarians who were present. Among the contingent was Mr. Al Bjarnason. It is with deep regrets that we report the death of his son, Matt, who was one of the three ill-fated helicopter passengers and pilot who lost their lives near Norman Wells.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Wilkes and daughter, Mona were visiting at the Sumarladason home, while Mr. Wilkes attended the D.V.A. conference in the city. Mr. Greg Wilkes of Leduc, representative of the Department of Youth there joined his parents for a visit, and accompanying him was Miss Penny Westmacott, assistant supervisor of 4-H clubs.

Mrs. Muriel Isfeld has been appointed manager of the Cameo Imports shop on 101st Street and 102 Ave. They specialize in oriental merchandise. Congratulations, Muriel!

Mr. and Mrs. Fusi Arnfinnson left by motor for points west hoping the change in climate would be beneficial to Fusi's health. They hope to find a location on southern Vancouver Island. While our So-

danavian functions, we sincerely hope that some relief from the illness which has been so painful will disappear, and happy days be theirs in their new surroundings.

Mr. and Mrs. O. V. Gislason have made many trips to Edmonton to visit their son Brian, injured in an automobile accident. It is reported that he is recovering favorably in the Glenrose Hospital. O. V. and Lorraine visited at Baptiste Lake attending a farewell for Jim Olson who has been transferred to Iran for two years where he will be employed by a drilling company. His wife, Muriel and two children will fly to Iran to join him later on.

Several copies of the monumental book, Western Icelandic 'Aeviskrar' by Rev. Benjamin Kristpansson have been received in the city. The book, though written in Icelandic contains innumerable photographs and brief details of the lives of Icelandic settlers in the western areas of Canada. This is the third of the series, and the final one is now being planned. On completion, the entire tremendous undertaking will record for history the story of western Canadians of Icelandic ancestry, their marriages, and children, and will in time become a collectors item. The thoroughness, and vastness of such a search is very impressive.

Sympathy of all the friends of the Stephan G, Stephansson families will be expressed in the death of Mrs. Jony Sigurbjorg Sigurdson on June 24th, 1969. The funeral service took place in the Markerville Church, with internment in the Stephansson Cemetery. Near the calm dedicated to the memory of her illustrious father, the well-known Icelandic poet.

Her daughter, Edna, son-in-law Stanley and grandchildren survive as well as her sister, Mrs. Rosa Benediktson.

The City of Red Deer instituted what they hope will become an annual event, in the International Folk Festival, a World Within a World, taking place on Dominion Day, or Canada Day, July 1st and 2nd. All ethnic groups were invited to display costumes, food or souvenirs typical of the lands of their origin. The Icelandic group rose to the occasion, some twelve costumes were fashioned by the ladies of Red Deer and of Burnt Lake, and the line-up of spectators viewing their booth was indicative of the interest being shown.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wallbank and children, Wendy and Billy motored west for a two-week holiday spent mostly near Osoyoos, B.C. They found rainy conditions prevailed, but found the brief stay in the fruit fields most pleasant.

Albertans watched with great interest the elections in Manitoba when the National Democratic Party won the victory under the leadership of the youthful Ed. Schryer. Among the successful candidates was Rev. Philip M. Petursson, of Winnipeg Wellington. He has been named Minister without portfolio in the new cabinet, in charge of the forthcoming Centennial programs.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorne MacPherson with their two children had a delightful holiday when attending the Unitarian Holiday Camp on the Kootenay River, B.C. They invited little Miss Freya Kristjanson, eight year old daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Marino Kristjanson to accompany them, to this inland recreation area

Word has been received of the appointment of Prof. Jon Thorhallson to a position on the staff of the Red Deer Junior College as Assistant Professor, teaching physics and doing much research. With Mrs. Hrefna Thorhallson, they will arrive in Alberta late in August to assume duties September 1st.

Dr. A. M. Kristjanson travelled to Boston, Mass., to be present at a Unitarian Conference being held there. Dr. Kristjanson is a member of the Canadian American Board of the Unitarian Universal Programme. His wife, Phyllis, and little four-year old daughter accompanied Mrs. M. W. Menzies to her home at Lac du Bonnet for a much-needed rest and change of scene. Mrs. Menzies, the wife of Dr. Menzies is a sister of Mrs. Kristjansson, and they spared no effort in making this a refreshing visit, and an opportunity of meeting many friendly people.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Austman were guests at the Sumarlidason and the Mitchell homes while up from Calgary on a week-end visit. They were able to recall many memories of past days when living in the same village of Elfros. Mrs. Austman, Louise, is a cousin of Henry Sumarlidason. It was very gratifying to hear news of their son's continuing success in the Nuclear Commission Team Project which will carry him and his family for a two-year stay in India.

The son, Vern had maintained a splendid scholastic record during his school days in Calgary, and graduated in engineering from the University of Alberta. While in Edmonton he was married, and now with his wife, Francis and four children, they will leave on Jan. 1st for the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project on an arid plateau 280 miles south-west of Delhi. Under an agreement of Atomic Energy of Canada, and Ontario Hydro some 106 people will journey to the Hydro colony, living in modern stone-houses, in a town-site that has an elementary school, store, swimming pool and tennis courts. Vern comments that "Our main aim is to help the Indians to help themselves". He joined the AEECL at Chalk River in 1953 and rose in responsibility becoming nuclear commissioning engineer of the Douglas Point plant in 1962. In India, their work will be in three stages, commissioning and start-up; bringing the first unit up to reliable full power; and an advisory operational period when the Hydro team will turn over responsibility to a regular Indian Staff. No doubt that his assistance will have far-reaching effects for the underdeveloped countries in the sharing of experiences and know-how. It is very gratifying to his parents and friends that a young western Canadian will be in charge of the specialized staff members, in preparing and co-ordinating a training program for Indian personnel who will eventually operate the installations.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Ledger, daughter, Louise, and son, Lance, travelled by car and camper for a three-weeks vacation which took them to Athabasca, Fort McMurray, and other northern points of the Province.

Greetings and best wishes go out to Les and Gail Vigfusson of Sherwood Park on the advent of a new son, David Craig, born May 13th, a brother for eight-year old Shauna.

Visitors at the Sumarlidason home for a brief stay were Mr. Skuli Bjornson, of Yorkton, Sask.; his son, Ingi Bjornson, of Foam Lake, and Valdi Jackson, of Elfros, a nephew of Henry Sumarlidason.

Congratulations and best wishes will follow Norm and Doris Vigfusson on their move to Cheney, Washington, following Norm's successful studies at the University of Alberta, where he received his doctorship in Genetics. With their children, Sandra, Dean, Sherri, and twins Tracy and Trevor, they will take up residence at 709 West Villard, Cheney, Wash., in August before Norm assumes the teaching post of assistant professor of Biology at Eastern Washington State College. They ask all friends who may be in the neighborhood of their new home to remember their address and call on them, with news from their Edmonton home.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Greenham motored to Ashern, Man., for a two-weeks vacation. They also visited Mrs. Gudrun Vigfusson of Selkirk, Mrs. Greenham's mother. While in Winnipeg, they visited two sisters of Mrs. Greenham as well.

As yet, no date has been set for the annual September corn-roast, and fall picnic, but readers are reminded to keep it in mind so no one will miss out on this jolly occasion.

Thanks go out to Judy Vigfusson, daughter of Herb and Phyllis Vigfusson, of Sherwood Park for representing our Nordstjerner Chapter, at the annual Scandinavian picnic. As first runner-up she proved to be a worthy candidate.

The Edmonton Icelandic Society wish to thank Miss Judy Vigfusson for entering the Scandinavian Centre contest.

Judy is the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Vigfusson of No. 22 Crane Road, Sherwood Park.

Her hobbies are music, dancing, and enjoys being a member of the Canada Dry Sparklers, which entertain at half time at the football games.

Judy has been chosen the first runner up for the Queen 1969-1970.

Once again many thanks and a job well done, Judy.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION TO THE PAPER

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Donations are greatly appreciated. Send donations to: Mrs. Vera Nielsen, Business Manager, Scandinavian Centre News, 12424 - 141 St., Edmonton 41, Alberta.

FINNISH SOCIETY

Miss Rusa Leino is spending one week in Calgary visiting with her cousin.

Mrs. Raila Hagman has her parents visiting from Finland.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Vesalainen also have Finnish visitors, the sister of Mr. Vesalainen with her husband.

Since the June birthdays were missed we'll send belated birthday greetings to the following people: Laila Kujala, Irja Kuusela, Vilko Ristola, and Toini Virtanen.

Birthday greetings to those celebrating in July. Impi Honka, Mary Karvonen Perkkio Karvonen, Ester Kit, Airi Langeste, Tyyne Lumaitinen, Maria Luoma, Erkki Lansimaki, Eila Fervonen, Maija Utunen.

We wish Mr. and Mrs. Olavi Fervonen the very best in their new home in the U.S.A.

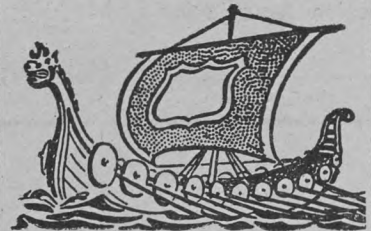
NORDSTJERNAN NEWS

Congratulations are in order for our chairman, Br. John Holmlund, on being elected to the office of District Master of Alberta, at the recent District Lodge Convention held in Edmonton. Br. George Sjogren was elected as a member of the Board of Executives for District 18. We wish to convey a hearty vote of thanks to Skandia Lodge who acted as hosts for the arrangements of this Convention. Nordstjerner delegates were Sr. Mabel Tapio and Br. George Sjogren.

A report on the District Convention was given by Br. George Sjogren at our July 5th meeting held at Sjogren's Cabin at Ma-Me-O Beach. There was further discussion concerning the July 19th Steak-Out. A committee was appointed for the District Picnic scheduled to be held at Rapid Creek on August 3, commencing at 11:30 a.m. Sports Activities will begin at 1 p.m. Everyone is requested to bring their own dishes for a Pot Luck Dinner.

Next meeting will be held at the home of Mr. Ed Palechek on Friday, August 1.

We hope all are enjoying good health and having a prosperous summer.



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A deposit of \$100.00 per person must accompany each reservation. Cheques are to be made payable to the Scandinavian Centre Flight Number. Reservations with cheque must be delivered or mailed to the person in charge. The balance of the fare is payable two months prior to departure date. Please add exchange to all cheques from out of town. Every passenger or the head of the family, must be a Shareholder of the Scandinavian Centre for at least 6 months prior to departure of flight.

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ORIGIN OF THE FJALLKONAN



MRS. SIGNY EATON
Fjallkonan — 1967
Gimli, Manitoba

The "Fjallkona", literally translated "Mountain Lady" is a symbol for "Mother Iceland," who bestows maternal love and care on her children, the Icelandic people.

This symbol was conceived by Eggert Olafsson who, in verse, described her person, garb and jewelry and recited her biography and philosophy about 1750.

Her white headress and veil symbolizes Iceland's snowcapped mountains and the green cape, the verdure of its valleys and lowlands.

Another poet, Bjarni Thorarensen, popularized the Fjallkona name in a toast to Iceland in 1810. This name has been widely used in poetry and prose and still is.

Her first pictorial image was presented as a frontispiece to a volume of Icelandic legends in English translation by George E. J. Powell and Eirikur Magnusson, published in London, England in 1866. This picture was, in turn, reproduced in a large engraving combining several Icelandic symbols, published on the occasion of the Millennium of colonization of Iceland in 1874.

Copies of this engraving found their way into almost every Icelandic home and from that time on it may be said that the Fjallkona symbol was fully accepted.

Her first ceremonial personal appearance was at the Icelandic Celebration in Winnipeg in 1924. This innovation added such dignity to the day's festivities that it became a permanent feature. Since then, her person has graced a seat of honour at annual celebrations, not only in Winnipeg and at Gimli but also in most of the other Icelandic communities on this continent. She greets and bestows her blessings on her descendants, far distant from the land of their ancestors and urges them to cherish and cultivate their precious cultural heritage and to contribute its finest elements to the Canadian nation.



To many of our readers this picture will bring to mind threshing "in the good old days". A glance back makes one aware of the tremendous progress we have made in the last few years.

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GLOBAL RAMBLINGS

BY
ESTHER MELLEMSTRAND

I expect to pass through this world but once
Any good therefore, that I can do,
Any kindness that I can show my fellow creatures,
Let me do it now.
Let me not defer or neglect it.
For I shall not pass this way again.

— Edmund Courtenay.

When your editor asked me if I would write an article on another subject, I decided to send in parts of my travelogue. It has also occurred to me that the readers may like to know a little about myself. There's not much to say for I'm such a "plain Jane!"

First of all though, I want to say "thank you" for all the kind letters I received after I had recounted the pioneering histories. Today, I'm in the mood to go through the file in search of my "jotting notes", and although I've taken a lot of ribbing about this habit of mine, it is the only way I can remember what I want to say. These notes have been named "Mom's Scraps", but my family knows they dare not destroy them — years ago, a wise man said no one should ever try to burden the mind with too many details. I've also been kidded that my gift of the gab should be more carefully wrapped. However though, when I feel like writing or talking I'm compelled to unwrap. I am aware however, that I do a lot of talking and say very little!

My figure? I live quite comfortably with it, for I wear a 15-16 dress. However, I am about as photogenic as a feather tick tied in the middle, and when I am asked to pose for a picture, I can put my best foot forward only when my silhouette is hidden under an A-line sheath, for otherwise the camera will add pounds to my waistline.

My face? I don't mind it, for I'm behind it — it's the one in front who gets the jar!

My Name? Mellemstrand in Norwegian means "between the shores". Six generations ago, the family name was Nelson, but since the woods were full of Nelsons, this name was adopted. The land of Mellemstrand, Norway has always been the property of the family. We have found through research that we are the only black sheep in the whole flock — therefore, we are the only ones with that name in the Western Hemisphere. While in Norway though, I believe I shook hands with and said "God-daggen" (good-day) to over one hundred of the same name, for my husband has six brothers with a good supply of sons and nine uncles who have been equally prolific. Therefore, we stand a good chance to keep the name in existence.

We visited Sweden, also, and while there I ransacked through a few histories in the family Bibles for I was anxious to learn about the background of my father's name — Wallsten. I had always been told by my father and uncles that the name was of Germanic origin. What I didn't know however, was that our forefather Baron Albrecht Eusebius von Wenzel Wallenstein's statesmanship and military life has gained him recognition in all the Encyclopedias of the world. According to our personal history though, our illustrious ancestor disliked military life and fled to Sweden. For this act, the German Emperor or-

dered his assassination for being a traitor to his own country. Inwardly, our ancestral Albrecht Eusebius must have been quite the introvert and most humble, for in his short sanctuary in Sweden, he changed his pretentious signature to the now simple Wallsten. Glad to report also that there are no Albrecht Eusebius Wenzel von Mellemstrands as yet!

Pictures? My first was taken in Amisk with my older sister Alma, and my only brother Gustav Adolph — he has eleven sisters though. On that picture I was a dimpled three-year-old and the only reason my mother didn't have a likeness of me crawling on a bear rug in my birthday suit is that very few of

any efforts to milk "Nondescript" our goat, but since my husband knew all the techniques here, all I needed to insure me of my one good laugh for the day was to see Ingvald pinch the nanny's head between his knees while he drained the milk taps! We're very fond of goat cheese, and whenever I had to play foster mother to orphaned piglets, goat milk was a real life saver.

Farm life too can provide one with an education. When we started the first year on our own farm, I had six setting hens and one cat, and although these hens and the cat were very prolific, at the end of the year, I had four chicks and six cats — I just couldn't learn how



THE MELLEMSTRAND'S — Left to right: husband, Ingvald;

Esther; son, Leighton Wallsten. Missing from picture is daughter Lynne Irene.

the pioneer women could afford such a luxury! Today I am enclosing a snapshot where I am the proud mother clutching her son's documents after his graduation ceremonies at the University of Alberta. My husband Ingvald is on my right and son Leighton Wallsten on my left. Lynne Irene our daughter, is also a graduate of the U. of A., but was unable to be present for she was serving in the R.C.A.F. in her capacity as a Physiotherapist.

My career? It all began at the Alberta College in Edmonton, where my course included legal shorthand. I thoroughly disliked the pressure of this work since so many phrases must be written capitalized. Therefore, through force of habit it seems as if my typewriter locks automatically whenever I must strike a WHEREAS or WHEREFORE! From this I graduated oddly enough to writing obituaries for the local papers; but I prefer to pass my bouquets to the living, so it was indeed a happy day for me when a free-lance journalist offered to tutor me. Under her guidance I learned the techniques of writing non-fictional articles for country magazines, and to her I owe many rewarding and happy hours of writing. God bless Lavina McLeod!

My occupation? I am a farmer's wife, and it pleases me immensely whenever I get an excuse to quote my favorite ditty:

"A farmer's life is an easy lot,
There's really nothing to it!
You never have to look for work,
You only have to do it!"

Then too, a farmer is spared the guilty feeling of crawling into the office ten minutes late. In my lifetime on the land, I have learned how to drive a tractor or truck, ride the cow-ponies, milk the dairy cows and teach the "pail-bunters" how to drink. However, I almost lost a finger in this process. I failed in

to pop off the wily coyote and the sly weasel who were the predators. Although I can't brag about learning how to shoot a coyote, over the years I did learn how to trap a weasel mercifully. My method of placing the bait and trap inside a gallon pail insures instant annihilation of the animal, and the sale of the furs around Christmas time was a helpful income. My biggest job was to keep the wick straight in our coal-oil lantern — it's a work of art to keep those flaming wicks from blacking the glass. Now in our semi-retirement, my pet and constant companion is a huge Golden Scotch Collie named "Bjorn" — Bjorn is Norwegian for bear, and when he stands on his hind legs to greet me his front paws reach my shoulders.

My global ramblings began when I was just a fraction of a mite, for I travelled from Harvey, North Dakota to Amisk, Alberta before I was born — therefore, I am a Canadian by nature rather than by decree, and I'm happy to be able to say "I'm a Canadian!"

Now after nearly sixty years, I have the same itchy feet I had before I made my first cry. Itchy feet however, keeps us on our toes, and a footloose and fancy-free population is an economic asset!

In travelling as at home, I keep my book with the jotting notes within arm's reach, and it has become one of my essential reference books. The newest addition to this treasure is that the 1968 Canadian coins won't operate the slots in a coin wash or a pay telephone.

Coin troubles? I've had them in other countries as well, but I've found that the first requisite in travelling is to make sure what coins will operate the slots of one's needs — particularly in the wash rooms. Fine, if one can read the language, but picture my predicament in a

Paris restaurant in that my knowledge of French is nil, and furthermore I could find no lady attendants! This is when I realized how true it is that inwardly we are "all brothers", for the coin I so desperately needed was pressed into the palm of my hand by a waiter. "Bless those gallant Frenchmen!" In all probability though, the value of the coin was added to my bill for I couldn't read it either.

In the German parks or zoos however, a lady attendant with a collection plate will take your coins and direct you to an unlocked door. The interior of this room is kept spotlessly clean and sanitary via the attendant's scouring brush and disinfectants after each using. The same is true of the Scandinavian countries, but there, an arrow pointing in the direction of the area designed for constitutional needs, is so well illustrated that a knowledge of the language is completely unnecessary.

Oddly enough, I had almost as many difficulties in London, England. I had always believed that English was my best language, but the confusing coins along with the confusing interpretation thereof, have made me wonder if my knowledge of English needs as much improvement as my knowledge of their frustrating coins!

Coin-slotted conveniences were unknown where I'm going to take you next, for I'm going to turn back the clock one hundred years to the bustling frontier town of Barkerville, B.C. In 1860, it was the largest town west of Chicago and North of San Francisco. Travelers en route to Barkerville in the 1860's would go by stage coach and stay over night at one of the famous Mile Houses on the Cariboo Wagon Road, and often had to share their rooms with twenty other passengers!

Visitors today are far more fortunate for they can stay in motels in the neighboring towns — all within comfortable driving distance of Historical Barkerville. The place now is a ghost town, but the Provincial Government has been working hard at the restoration of its heyday. In 1860, Barkerville had everything needed for community life. Our party in 1966 looked into the bar of Kelly's Inn, Trapper Dan's Cabin, Wellington Delaney Moses' barber shop and the mine shaft of Billy Barker, but when I was challenged to peek through the curtains of the building marked "Sporting House", where the sign read, "This place needs no advertising", I learned to my chagrin that the interpretation of the signs of that era differ drastically from those of today. When I go back to Barkerville again, I shall know that I won't find old-time shot guns, hunting knives or ski equipment in there!

However, I came away from that country with a highly prized souvenir, for I was able to purchase a copy of the unique publication called "Buckskin Cookery". Copies of this book may be obtained from Mrs. Gwen Lewis, Box 665, Quesnel, B.C. I've had Mrs. Lewis' permission to quote some of the old wives tales in Volume 1. I think their advice is priceless.

LOVE CHARM

Carefully dig up female of any plant. Talk to it. Call it by name

of girl. Dig up male of same plant. Talk to it, and name for man. Plant together, if plants live, couple will fall in love, if plants die, no good!

TOOTHACHE

Look for tiny jump up plants that grow with buttercups. Pound them into a mash. Pack the mash into hole of tooth. Hurts bad. Hold man down till tooth crumbles. Spit out pieces and lift out root. Toothache gone.

SEX TEST OF EGGS

Thread a needle with about six inches of thread, hold perfectly still over the egg. If the needle begins to swing back and forth, the egg will hatch a male. If it swings in a circle, the egg is female. If it hangs still, the egg is no good.

GOITRE

Mix bear fat and iodine and rub on big lump on neck. Pretty soon lump go away.

PILES

Insert yarrow leaves cushed fine.

ALCOHOLISM

Simmer 1 tsp. guassia chips in 1 quart of water for one-half hour. Drink. This will remove the appetite for intoxicating liquors.

WOMAN'S TROUBLES

Find reeds from lake — short round reeds with nicks in. Make tea of them. Drink for woman's troubles.

REMARKABLE FEAT

Chief Kwah had four wives. On one particular occasion he came to the factor telling that he had had two children born on the same day. The chief was awarded with a turnip. An authority on history explains that a turnip was given in place of a drink for a toast.

God is a Master Engineer, and I can see where he must have smiled with pleasure when he looked down upon the beauties of the Rocky Mountains, but like all designers, he must have been left with a quantity of remnants, and since waste disposal will always be one of the world's most profitable industries, likewise so would be God's disposals. Therefore, it would not be a bit surprising if we should learn someday that he dumped his bits and pieces into the Drumheller Valley to shape the fantastic Alberta Badlands. These badlands could well have been named the Disneyland of Hoodoos — something for the dinosaurs to play in. A hundred million years ago there were at least sixty species of dinosaurs and they were as plentiful as our prairie coyotes today. In Drumheller a visitor will find just one reconstructed lifelike skeleton, and in examining it we actually found what seemed to be the evidence of this monster having had arthritis in his tail bone. Picture what a hectic time a physiotherapist would have had in making that huge tail mobile!

When a person goes down into the Drumheller Valley, one cannot see the sun sinking down into the horizon, and since we didn't want to miss seeing our famous Alberta sunset, we drove up to see it and the tiny Chapel of Meditation built by a Pentecostal minister in 1958. It seats six people and is the smallest church in the world. A record player plays the hymn of your choice, but doesn't ask for money.

To Be Continued

The Icelandic Celebration

Held Annually In August

BY MRS. STEVENS
of Gimli, Manitoba

The people of Icelandic extrac- tion in Canada and the U.S. hold an annual celebration on what is called "Islendingadagurinn" or Ice- landers' Day, on which occasion they pay tribute in speech and verse to the land of their origin and to the country that is now their own.

The first Icelandic community celebration in N.A. was the im- pressive Millennial observance at Milwaukee on Aug. 2nd, 1874, com- memorating one thousand years of settlement in Iceland. The first of its kind in Canada was in Winnipeg on Aug. 2nd, 1890. A number of people advocated such an ob- servance after the fashion of other ethnic groups in the country. It was felt that Icelandic people, small in numbers and scattered, should take every possible step that would unite them in thought and feeling. They had no cause to be ashamed of their racial origin; as one of the weekly papers stated at the time, "The dis- covery of Vinland, the Republic of the Saga heroes, and their litera- ture, are jewels in the crown of the Icelandic nation which the filching hand of time can neither steal nor hide."

Victoria Gardens was the scene of the first Winnipeg celebration which was preceded by a proces- sion of forty carriages, headed by the Infantry School Band. At that time the Icelandic community num- bered three thousand people, one- tenth of the city's population!

The program, with toasts to Ice- land and America, original poems, addresses, singing, and sports set a high standard of excellence as well as a pattern for future celebrations. Among the guests were many pro- minent people. The sports program included running, jumping, Icelan- dic wrestling, and a boat race. In the evening there was community singing and dancing. The daily papers devoted considerable space to their account of the day which was one of the outstanding events in Winnipeg that year, and the pro- cession had been the largest seen in the city. The Icelandic people were praised for characteristics of thrift, honesty, industry, loyalty, and pride in their racial origin.

The annual celebration was held in Winnipeg until 1932 when it was moved to Gimli, the site of the ar- rival of the first group of pioneers in 1875. It is attended by people of Icelandic origin from points in the interlake area and Winnipeg

There have been some changes over the years. The day begins with a procession of automobiles and floats, led by the Fjallkona, and accom- panied by the RCAF band. Awards are given for the best floats and the parade becomes more impres- sive every year. The procession pauses at the Memorial Monument to the pioneers, where the Fjall- kona lays a wreath. Since 1924 the Fjallkona or Maid of the Moun- tains, who symbolizes Iceland, has given a brief address of welcome. Seated on an elevated throne, clad in the beautiful and formal Ice- landic national costume of white satin gown, green plush robe trim- med with ermine, high-crowned head dress of white veil falling over the shoulders to the waist, and beau- tiful gold belt, she is the presiding genius of the day. The maids of honor, formerly clad in the plain Icelandic costume with tasselled skull cap, are now dressed in white. The theme of the toasts to Iceland, delivered in Icelandic, are tradi- tionally the beauty of the Icelandic landscape, the riches of her litera- ture, and Iceland today. The toasts to Canada, in English, would grace any Canada Day celebration. Or- iginal poems and choral music are a part of the program. Sports have always been a prominent feature of the day. It is a day for the reunions of families and friends, and an oc- casion for Icelandic dishes. After the program people stream to the pavilion for a repast of rullspylsa on Icelandic brown bread, skyr, vinar- terta, rolled thin pancakes, and coffee.

The original purpose of the cel- ebration was to commemorate the granting of a constitution to Iceland in 1874, but in time it was to honor the pioneers. A pioneers pavilion has been erected near the speakers' platform in the shade of the stately evergreens.

Today it is primarily a pleasurable outing, but the deeper significance of this festive occasion has not been dismissed from the mind. The sacri- fices and the achievements of the pioneers are recalled. Moreover the celebration has had a cultural signi- ficance. It did much for the de- velopment of a high standard of sports and athletics in the Icelandic communities. It has served as bond between the large Icelandic settle- ments in Manitoba. It has helped to maintain among the Canadian-born a sympathetic consciousness of Ice- land and to maintain a sense of kin- ship among the people of Icelandic origin in Canada.

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Sunday, August 10th, 8:00 p.m. English Service. Holy Communion.
Sunday, August 17th, 11:00 a.m. Danish Service.
Sunday, August 24th, 8:00 p.m. English Service.
Sunday, August 31st, 11:00 a.m. Danish Service.

SPORT CORNER

DANIA Soccer Club

The DANIA soccer team has not done as well as expected. Of the past seven games they lost three, tied one and won three. They lost to Safeway Jets 1 to 3, to the U.A. Goldenbears 2 to 5 and to the Wanderers 1 to 5. Their wins were against the Sports 2 to 0, the City Police 2 to 0 and the Yugostars 2 to 1.

The tie came on their eight game of the season against 1st D.F.C. 3 to 3. So far in the season, the goal scoring players are Knud Andreassen on top with five goals, Jens Knudsen with three goals, Ernst Sorensen, Herb Eli, Greig Miles each with two goals and Joe Karasz with one goal.

The remainder of DANIA's games will be played in Coronation Park. On August 11th DANIA plays the Ritchie Canadians, on August 19th the Strathearn Rovers and on September 1st the 1st D.F.C. This last game is for the President Cup and the winner of this game plays again on September 8th.

All games now start at 6:30 instead of 7:00 due to light shortage.

DANIA DOINGS



Monday, August 18th at 8:00 p.m. is the next meeting for the Ladies of "BIKUBEN", we hope to see as many as possible, we know of course, that some of you will still be on holidays, but the rest of you, please come to 12424 - 141 Street.

* * *

We like to welcome all the visitors from the Scandinavian Countries that are here to visit relatives and friends and we hope you will enjoy your stay in this big beautiful country.

* * *

Sunday, August 24th is the date for a family picnic and "Shooting" of different kind, as we cannot locate a suitable place for "Fugleskydning" instead we will have Clay pigeon - Target Shoot - Bow and Arrow. For the children "Cykelringridning" Prize for the best decorated Bike. Games of all kinds. So bring your picnic lunch along, we will start at 2:00 p.m. and enjoy a full day at the D. S. Ranch, 1/2 mile west of Winterburn Store on Highway 16.

* * *

Remember the summer camp for children (6-14) years at Sylvan Lake from August 16 to August 23. Price only \$16.00. Registration forms and further informations can be obtained from Pastor Filtenborg phone 469-6123. Register not later than August 1st. Leader of the camp this year will be Pastor Filtenborg and leader of the kitchen will again this year be Mrs. Anna Jensen.

* * *

Vancouver Danes Get Their Own Community Hall!

It is the belief of The Board of Directors of The Danish Community Centre of Vancouver, that the basic goal of getting A DANISH HALL has been accomplished by the Society only 6 1/2 years after its founding.

The Danish Central Committee, Vancouver, B.C. was founded March 31, 1960, with the object to act as a parent Society for all Danish organizations in British Columbia and to promote co-operation between these and furthermore promote cultural and social activities. It was the Central Committee's belief that a Danish Hall to centralize all activities would be a benefit to this course, so on November 5th, 1962, the Constitution and By-laws were signed by the members of the Danish Central Committee who were: Poul B. Christensen, B. A. Johansen, Ib Nielsen, Hugo Busch, Henning Pedersson, Helge Lindhede, Einer Jorgensen, Edvin Rude, Oscar Grann - and became the first Board of Directors in the Danish Community Centre of Vancouver.

Assessments 1968: Land \$22,500 - Improvements \$53,200.

Age: Construction 1924. Old but appears to be sound and good.

Land size: 100 feet frontage - 122 feet to the lane.

Building: Reinforced concrete building containing three large halls with kitchens, offices, library, two small areas of basement containing an oil furnace, an automatic gas hot water heater and the electric service. Main floor area is 7304 square feet. Upstairs floor is 6210 square feet. The rear 1094 square feet is of frame construction. Roof is gable type, asphalt shingled and with a small area of flat tar and gravel. Outside walls are stucco. Inside walls are plastered except for movable partitions. Floors are fir and linoleum. Furniture and equipment included except what belongs to present tenant.

Hastings Auditorium needs a face lifting, rest rooms, heating and entrance hall have top priorities. The Board of Directors feel that they have come up with the best solution possible with the means available.

The Danish Central Committee.

GUSTAV VIGELAND

World-Famous Norwegian Sculptor
1869 - 1943

This year marks the centenary of the birth of Gustav Vigeland, Norway's great sculptor, who was born on the sunny South Coast at Mandal in 1869. "I was a sculptor before I was born," he has said of himself. He traveled widely in his younger days, and studied under the most influential craftsmen in Europe. He was influenced especially by Rodin.

Already at an early age, Gustav Vigeland conceived the idea of creating a giant sculpture park in Oslo, based around a central theme. His imaginative approach caught the interest of Oslo Municipality, and in 1921 they decided to provide him with a studio - probably the first time in history when elected politicians said "Give him the tools, and he will do the job!" The studio was built in Frogner Park, and Vigeland was given a free hand to work as he wished - whilst the city elders paid for it. He created the sculpture which made Oslo's Frogner Park become one of the outstanding cultural attractions of the world.

Vigeland's Monolith forms the focal point in the park, placed with mathematical accuracy, 57 ft. high, chiseled out of one solid granite slab, which scaled 470 tons, when it was blasted out of the quarry. The transport from Idde fjord to Oslo lasted from August 1926 to February 1927, and even the monolith arrived in Oslo harbor, the overland trek to Frogner Park never exceeded more than 204 ft. in one day. It had taken Vigeland 10 months to create a full-scale model

of the monolith, but the transfer to stone occupied 3 men for 13 years.

Arranged radially around the monolith in 12 rows - 3 in each row - are 36 large granite groups, which form the culminating point of the structure. These groups are universal in their humanity, taken directly from life. They begin with nature's prodigality in the shape of small children, and end with the dead.

Vigeland's Fountain is the mathematical continuation of the monolith, a quadratic basin surrounded by a moat, with 20 groups of natural size and 60 granite reliefs on the basin walls. The central group is the fountain, supported by 6 naked men in twice natural size. The water needed for this fountain - 450 litres per second - was equivalent to half of the city's consumption before the war, so the same water is always pumped back into the fountain.

The sculptures which are best known for their individual features, are seen on Vigeland's Bridge, 330 ft. long, with 58 bronze groups, rounded off by two large granite sculptures on pillars at each end. These sculptures alone have endeared Gustav Vigeland to thousands of visitors from all over the world and have secured firmly his position as the creative giant of the twentieth century.

Vigeland's old studio is now the Vigeland Museum, where the centenary of his birth was celebrated in April by a special exhibition on "The Story of Vigeland's Fountain."

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